

AUG 09 2006

Application Serial No. 09/932,700
Reply to Office Action of March 9, 2006PATENT
Docket: CU-2628**REMARKS**

In the Office Action, dated March 9, 2006, the Examiner states that Claims 1-34 are pending, Claims 1-12 are rejected and Claims 13-34 are withdrawn. By the present Amendment, Applicant amends the claims.

Withdrawn Claims 13-34 have herewith been cancelled to allow new claims 35-37 to be added without incurring excess claim fees. However, the Applicant maintains the right to eventually file a divisional application directed to the cancelled claims.

In the Office Action, Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Higashio (US 6,421,062) in view of Mizoguchi (US 5,805,215). The Applicant considers that the amendments to the claims overcome this rejection.

The features added to the independent Claims 1, 7 and 10 find support on page 35, lines 1-16, page 38, line 10 through page 39, line 2, and in Figure 23.

The amended claims specify that the selection of the event information to be added to the original image is performed by at least two steps, namely at least genre selection and retrieval with the time which is related to the original image. In Higashio, the selection is performed by one step. Namely, the "retrieval" in Higashio is to choose the image (image data of the image) to be printed from a storage medium, such as CD-ROM, by hitting a search key such as "birthday", "Christmas", or "Wedding anniversary" to the index data stored in CD-ROM for the image data. Based on such an event information from index data or additionally inputted event information, an image processing where ornamental frames corresponding to the event information are given in order to add to the image data.

Further, in Higashio the event information is an index data of the image data, and is not obtained as a result of the retrieval with the time which is related to the original image. Further, "birthday" and "wedding anniversary" are not social events, but personal events.

As previously argued, what is disclosed in Mizoguchi is a personal information processing apparatus which has (A) image data inputting means, (B) event data inputting means, (C) detector which detects whether first data associated with the

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image data is identical to second data associated with the event data, (D) storing means which stores the event data and the image data so as to be associated together directly, when a detector detects that the first data is identical to or included in the second data, and (E) searching means for image data on the basis of the image data stored in the storing means. To sum up, upon filing image data, without necessitating the input works for the whole numerous classifying data to be needed for filing the image data, only by inputting a few pieces of data, such as occurrence time of the event, and correlating the inputted data (first data) to the already inputted data (second data), such as schedule data of an electronic personal organizer, and thus being capable of utilizing the second data for the filing, an efficient filing can be performed.

Thus, Mizoguchi also fails to disclose that the selection of the event information to be added to the original image is performed by at least two steps.

Further, the second data in Mizoguchi is personal event data, and thus a user must input such data at least one time. Mochizuki aims only to exclude the duplicate input works for such data.

For these reasons, the Applicant considers that the amended claims are not obvious in view of Higashio and Mizoguchi.

In light of the foregoing response, all the outstanding objections and rejections are considered overcome. Applicant respectfully submits that this application should now be in condition for allowance and respectfully requests favorable consideration.

August 9, 2006

Date

Respectfully submitted,



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